

JSC employee earns council's Technical Person of Year award

A JSC employee was the recipient of the Clear Lake Council's Technical Person of the Year award, presented at its 13th annual Awards Banquet on June 14 at the JSC Gilruth Recreational Center.

JSC's Eric Christiansen, manager of the Hypervelocity Impact Analysis Facility in the Earth Science and Solar System Exploration Division, earned Technical Person of the Year honors. The other nominee was R. Peter Bonasso of Metrica Inc.

Life sciences database gets new upgrade

Internet users can now access the Master Catalog of the NASA Life Sciences Data Archive on the World Wide Web segment of the Internet.

The archive, which represents the first detailed and easily accessible database of research results of the NASA Life Sciences Division, provides a wealth of scientific knowledge developed from 30 years of space-based research into the effects of microgravity on living systems, including the human body.

NASA developed the LSDA, following a detailed evaluation process, to provide better access to data, general information and results of NASA-sponsored life sciences investigations. The archive was first introduced in June 1995 and initially contained overview information on recent life sciences shuttle missions. With today's move, the archive has now been upgraded to include the Master Catalog, containing detailed descriptions of experiments, missions, hardware, and personnel.

This information will allow researchers to plan future experiments and conduct retrospective data analysis. It will be equally valuable to students and educators in preparing research papers or class lessons and in proposing student experiments to NASA.

The LSDA is located on the World Wide Web at the National Space Science Data Center and includes links to a number of other related Life Sciences Web sites. Internet users can access the LSDA at: <http://nssdc.gsfc.nasa.gov/life>

MCC extends STS-78 viewing

The Mission Control Center has extended viewing room hours for JSC and contractor badged employees and their families during the STS-78 mission.

Employees will now be allowed to visit the MCC from 1-5 p.m. Saturday, 5-7 p.m. Monday, 11:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. Wednesday and 5-7 p.m. Friday. Employees must wear their badges and escort family members through the lobby of Bldg. 30 South. Because of the dynamic nature of shuttle missions, viewing hours may be changed.

For the latest information, call the Employee Information Service at x36765.

JSC employees to be honored next month in Teague

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Thornton, David Walker and James Wetherbee.

The NASA Outstanding Leadership Medal will go to Kenneth Bowersox, Gary Coultas, Wilbert Ellis, Bernard Harris, Terence Henricks, Tamara Jernigan, Stephen Oswald, John Rummel and James Voss.

The NASA Exceptional Service Medal will be given to Gloria Araiza Young, Ellen Baker, Albert Behrend, David Birmingham, Kenneth Cockrell, Jesse Contreras, Nancy Currie, Izella Dornell, Marilyn Dotson, Michael Foale, James Gauthier, Margaret Guerra, James Halsell, David Hamilton, Gregory Harbaugh, William Harris, Gail Horiuchi, Bobbie Jenkins, Robert Kelso, Kathleen Leary, Thomas Logan, Linda Massey, William McArthur, James Newman, Graydon Owens, James

The Educator of the Year award was presented to Robert Nevels of Texas A&M University. Nominees included Dave Criswell of the University of Houston and A. Glenn Houston of the University of Houston.

The Technical Administrator of the Year recipient was Frank Musil of Boeing Defense and Space Group. Also nominated were Nancy Robertson, chief of JSC's Public Affairs Education and Information Services Branch and Kenneth Reightier of Lockheed Martin.



The Mir 22 crew check out food that will be available during their stay on the Russian outpost. From left are Flight Engineer Pavel Vinogradov, Commander Gennady Manakov, American Cosmonaut Researcher John Blaha and French Cosmonaut Researcher Claudie Andre-Deschays.

Lucid focuses on Earth observations

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along with Earth observations.

The crew's work this week involved operation of the Queen's University Experiment in Liquid Diffusion payload. QUELD is a fixed furnace facility which provides scientists with a way of measuring the diffusion coefficients in some metallic binary systems as well as glasses and semiconductor materials. Sample processing began Tuesday with work going faster than scientists predicted.

Earth observations include regions in Russia, western Siberia, the southern Amazon Basin and the central Andes mountains.

Last week, air sampling activities were done in the Specter and Core modules with the Solid Sorbent Air Sampler and the Grab Sample Container devices. SSAS is designed to sample air quality over a long period—24 hours—as it looks for particular components in the air.

Material science going well on STS-78

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are being tested in the Advanced Gradient Heating Facility to better understand the solidification process that may lead to improvements of materials processing on Earth. Fluid experiments are being conducted in the Bubble Drop and Particle Unit. While the unit experienced problems early in the week, limited operations are continuing with troubleshooting planned for later in the mission.

Henricks and Kregel tested the Voice Command System that will allow space travelers to command the onboard television system while performing other tasks. Henricks also

Astronaut Franklin Chang-Diaz discussed his work on an advanced propulsion system and related how his interest in NASA space activities as a youth led him to his present status as an astronaut.

The American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics and the Institute of Electrical Electronic Engineering, two of the member societies, also made presentations to Pasadena ISD Science Fair students and teachers that supported them in recognition

of their achievements throughout the school year. The local AIAA and IEEE supported their activities during the school year and presented the awards to the students.

The council, which was formed in 1980 and has a membership of 14 local technical societies, provides a monthly calendar of member society meetings and supports Spaceweek activities, video conferences and other societies activities. The council also is planning to build an engineering facility.

NASA plans third procurement forum

NASA will conduct its third annual open forum meeting from 2-4 p.m. Aug. 22 at Teague Auditorium to solicit questions, views and opinions of interested persons or firms concerning NASA's procurement policies and practices.

The purpose of the meeting is to have an open discussion between NASA Associate Administrator for Procurement Deidre Lee and representatives from industry and the public.

The briefing will primarily target private industry, but will be open to any who would like to attend. Doors will open at 1:30 p.m. and reservations are not required. The two-hour briefing will be followed by a question and answer session. In addition to the general discussion, NASA will invite comments or questions relative to its ongoing procurement initiatives, some of which include cost control, performance-based contracting, source selection, change order reduction and process change.

Questions for the associate administrator will be accepted at the meeting and should not be submitted in advance. Position papers are not being solicited.

For further information you may contact the JSC Industry Assistance Office at x34511.

Hubble scientist Weiler at Houston Forum luncheon

One of NASA's top astrophysicists will present a tour of the universe as seen through the Hubble Space Telescope next month in downtown Houston.

The Houston Forum presentation featuring Ed Weiler, chief of ultraviolet/visible and gravitational astrophysics at NASA Headquarters, will be from noon-1:30 p.m. July 10 at the J. W. Marriott Hotel.

As project scientist for the Hubble, Weiler is the chief scientific spokesman for the program and will shed light on great questions of the universe and discuss new findings unveiled by the Hubble telescope. Weiler has worked on the Hubble project since its inception 18 years ago.

Tickets for this luncheon are \$25 for members, \$30 for guests and \$275 for a table of 10. Reservations are due by July 5. For more information regarding this event, call Christopher Ligi at 439-0466.

JSC shares safety course with contractor supervisors

For the first time, JSC is offering its Senior Manager's Safety Course to all first line contractor supervisors and managers.

The course brings mishap prevention and the critical role of line management in safety programs into focus. Incidents unique to NASA, as well as examples from the private sector, are included in the course.

Two sessions are being offered; one on July 16-17 and the other on July 17-18. Both sessions will be held at the University of Houston Clear Lake.

Please contact Margie Williams of the JSC Safety Learning Center at x36369 to register for one of the sessions. Any questions about the course may be directed to Tracy Fergusson at x33548.

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